44-1941

Eunice, La. New Era
January 3, 1941

FIFTH COLUMNISTS IN SOUTH; 14 'DEMANDS' OF THE NEGROES

(EDITOR'S NOTE—With this installment entitled Exhibit "F" by the Constitutional Educational League of New York City, New Haven, Conn.; Madison, Wisconsin, and their Southern headquarters at Birmingham, Ala., we close our series of articles on the activities of Fifth Columnists in the Southern States and also in the United States. Exhibit "F" reveals the case against the Communist Party, the National Negro Congress, John L. Lewis and the Negro Soviet Republic. While these articles deal entirely with Communist Fifth Columnists, we must not lose sight of the facts that the Nazists and Facists (all Socialists except for a few divergent "doctrines," have their Fifth Columnists at work in the South, throughout the United States, the Western Hemisphere and the entire world.) We are face to face with the question as to whether we shall have Democracy and Freedom, or a dictatorship under our choice of Socialism in the form of Communism-Naziism and Facisism, and we had just as well prepare to deal therewith in the future for the preservation of our civil and religious liberties.

Further on in this article we reprint from the Baptist Message, official organ of Louisiana Baptists published at Shreveport an editorial entitled "FOURTEEN 'DEMANDS' OF THE NEGROES. This Message editorial is one of the many convincing facts which verifies Fifth Columnists movements and proves that it is not "propaganda," not to mention the proofs exhibited by Congressman Martin Dies and the FBI under J. Edgar Hoover. Following is Exhibit "F" of Communistic Fifth Columnist of "the Sweet Sunny South:")

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EXHIBIT "F"

"It must be pointed out to the white masses of the South that Reconstruction, when the Negro freedom and poor white masses of the South stepped forward to take their place in the government, was the most democratic period the South has ever seen. That period witnessed a popular mass storm that swept through the foul atmosphere of the South and for a few brief years cleared the air.

"This, the true interpretation of Reconstruction, and 'Carpet - Bag rule,' as the essential carrier of democratic development in the South, must be salvaged from the garbage heap of filth and slime to which it has been relegated by reactionary historians. It must be brought home to the Southern masses."

The quotations above, taken from directives in an official Communist document outlining the Red campaign to establish a People's Front in the South, are typical of the general tenor of the whole Communist strategy. In bringing the argument up-to-date the instructions continue:

"In the exposure of the Southern reactionaries, Communists, especially our white Southern comrades, must point out how these people 'protect' Southern white womanhood by enslaving them in the textile mills and sweatshops of the South; how they 'defend' the interests of the Southern masses by foisting upon the workers wage differentials.

"The Southern white Communists must show how these agents of the Southern Bourbons, in order to perpetuate the division between Negro and white, preach 'Anglo-Saxon racial purity,' while clandestinely violating Negro womanhood, procreating a whole population of illegitimate and disinherited mulatto children.

"They must constantly point out to the Southern white masses that their poverty, backwardness, and degradation are but by-products of the national oppression of the Negro people, that without the solution of this fundamental problem the real liberation of the white masses of the South cannot be achieved."

The Communists, of course, have already decided what to do about the Negro question. They would establish a Soviet Negro Republic in the 'Black belt.' An official Communist declaration on the subject reads:

"There are 12,000,000 Negroes in the United States. About 9 1-2 million live in the South. There is a stretch of land running from the eastern shore of Maryland down into Texas through 12 states and embracing about 397 counties in which the Negroes form the majority of the population. This is the homeland of the Negroes.

"The governments and armed forces of the white ruling class must be removed from this Black Belt, which by right belongs to the Negroes, and must be organized as a distinct political unit. The Negro majority must have full governmental control. It is where today they have begun to battle. The land should be divided among Negro farmers, croppers and tenants.

"Full economic, political and social equality should be guaranteed for Negroes in every section of the country. We, therefore, say to the Negro people: Violate the Jim Crow rules. The Commust Party is the only party in America that has actually introduced Negro equality Freedom must be fought for—and this fight cannot wait. It is literally a life and death struggle—this means Civil War."

In the last week of April, 1940, the Communist-controlled National Negro Congress, after hearing John L. Lewis pledge his aid, elected Dr. Max Yergan, a teacher at the New York Communist school, as president, and launched an immediate campaign to increase its strength in the South.

The Congress also decided to affiliate with Labor's Non-Partisan League, the political wing of the CIO, and passed a resolution declaring the Negro people would not fight against Russia in a war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

As soon as the convention was over the only Negro member of Congress, Representative Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois, made a speech on the floor of the house in which he said:

"Subversive influences are at work among the Negroes. Communists are trying to disrupt the good feelings between the two races in this country. Designing white men are trying to use the Negro as a tool against the government".

Mr. Mitchell denounced such efforts, along with the resolution of the National Negro Congress which said Negroes would not fight against Russia. He concluded:

"I wish to go on record as thoroughly disapproving the appeal made to the Negro at this National Negro Congress by the labor leader, John L. Lewis. It is my opinion that John L. Lewis is the most dangerous, outstanding leader in America today, and it is his desire to change our form of government and to establish a dictatorship in America."

An official Red organ, "The Communist," a few years ago said: "Our Party has been close to the Negro people of the South, and has advanced demands dear to the hearts of the Negro people. We must now begin to advance a program which will bring us as close to the masses of Southern whites.

"Are we to scoff at Southern pride? Under no conditions. We must rally that pride for the building up of the South. The present poverty, ignorance and exploitation of the South violently contradict this pride. We must stand for a prosperous and progressive South which will take its place in social well-being, educational opportunity, etc., on a plane of equality with the rest of the nation.

"These are demands dear to the hearts of the Southern people."

In line with this stated policy Communist leaders and organizers have been making all kinds of impressive and fantastic promises to win recruits. And they have been making headway, not because their arguments were sound, but partially on account of their close association with the CIO unions, and mainly because they received practically no opposition.

One Communist pamphlet which has been having a rather remarkable circulation makes grandiose promises through forty-five pages, and finally on page forty-six says:

"We have only indicated some of the possibilities. Still greater ones would unfold in a Soviet America. This much is important and certain: with the overthrow of the landlord-capitalist power and the establishment of the Soviet Negro Republic, the most backward section of the United States would develop into an advanced wealthy area."

Yes, they mean the South. And, they're still promising:

"New, modern school buildings will arise by the thousaands..... Technical schools and universities will become a southern product. We think it entirely safe to predict that the public school system in all its branches will develop at a rate in the South exceeding any previous records in the history of American capitalism....

"President Roosevelt's present estate in Georgia and the other resorts of the millionaires can be turned into sanitoria, hospitals, clubs, etc. Palm Beach can become the haven of tired workers and toiling farmers. All the best spots and resorts of the present ruling class can become rest homes for the masses.

"This in only a mere peep into the vista of a glorious future for the masses....We must begin now—begin by organizing, by preparing our forces in our daily struggles to improve our conditions, by learning 'to take over'."

must also look successful. Clients [illegible] shown how to beautify the interior of their homes in good taste. Topics discussed at various meetings were: Curtain making, color harmonies, making slip covers, flower arrangement and related subjects. Of course, these topics were discussed at meetings held for T.P., R.P., and higher type clients.

"We were fortunate in being able to accomplish some work in landscaping. If there is "any one thing" that makes a client "look" successful it is a neat, well kept yard. Mr. Hamilton of the Regional Office helped us hold four meetings on landscaping, having an average attendance of 10 clients. One meeting was held on the project, and three were held for Tenant Purchase clients. As a result of these meetings, 10 clients have made cutting beds, and this fall over 2000 cuttings have been rooted. This, of course, is marked progress over the year, 1939.

"Thirty-five record books were given out in January, 1940. These were explained and the families visited periodically. Of this 35 books given out, 15 were kept after a fashion, and 20 were kept fairly accurately. Record keeping is something new to a farmer, and it is hard to "sell" some farmers on the idea of record keeping. We believe that if they keep records in any form and believe in them, we can finally show them the benefit of the "Farm Family Record Book." Our biggest hinderance in this special phase of our work is due to lack of education (not of interest.) One R.P. family had been particularly difficult to work with on the record keeping idea. The mother and father did not read or write. The son, age 27, had had a very limited schooling. During 1939, they definitely would not keep a record book. Finally in the spring of 1940, they agreed halfheartedly to try. From time to time this client was contacted and helped with these records. Last week a home supervisor visited his home and the following conversation took place: "Miss..... we want you to know that we never thought much about records before, but we sure find it nice that here in December we know what we did all the year. Year coming we will keep this even better cause we can keep our business straight."

"In the above narrative we have attempted to bring out that definite progress has been made during the year, 1940 on the following: Live-at-home program, canning equipment, health situation, education, home management, landscaping, and record keeping."

That is the objective of the Fifth Column.

To "take over" industry!

To "take over" the South!!

To "take over" America!!!

FOURTEEN "DEMANDS" OF THE NEGROES

The following editorial is taken from The Baptist Message of Shreveport of Thursday, December 5th:

The Southern Baptist Home Missions Magazine for December carries a very informing article by the late Dr. L. K. Williams, at the time of his death pastor of one of the largest Negro Baptist churches in the world and vice president of the Baptist World Alliance, entitled "Call to Conflict." Several weeks ago Dr. Williams was killed in an airplane accident.

The article deals with the various subversive elements that are bidding for the Negroes' allegiance. He says, "There are the siren calls of radicals and un-American rebels. They court and nourish the prejudices of the race. They seek to open the gaping wounds inflicted unjustly upon it. They offer the enjoyments of rights and privileges which they do not have, and would not give if they could."

The church, the writer continues, is the only instrument that can save the Negroes from these deceptive enemies that are endeavoring to steal and poison the heart of the colored man.

In the same paper is a resume of "The Negro's Fourteen Demands," which Dr. E. P. Allredge attributes to John R. Hawkins, a leader in the African Methodist church. Dr. Alldredge says these demands have "met almost universal acceptance... among Negroes."

While some few of these "demands" are just and would make for better conditions among the Negroes, some of them are nothing more than the vaporings of radicals and would result in racial friction that would be to the detriment of the colored people.

The following is a digest of these "demands":

1. "The privilege of voting at all elections and holding office, the same as enjoyed by the Whites." The privilege of voting should come to the Negroes gradually as the literacy level of the races rises. As for holding public office—that is a long time off. This is a white man's country, and so long as it remains so public offices will be filled by whites.

2. "Better educational facilities in the South—the same as given to white children." This "demand" is in the main a just one. The South, however, has made great strides in the past few years in giving Negro children adequate educational facilities.

3. "Abolition of 'Jim-Crowism'—the same accommodations and privileges granted to Negroes as to whites, on all common carriers." This is the most foolish "demand" of all. The "Jim-Crow law is a fair and just law relating to racial contacts in the South. It guarantees protection to the Negro in his place Without this law there would be no end of friction between the races—and the Negro would be the chief sufferer.

4. "Discontinuance of unjust discrimination and color segregation in the various departments of the government service.' Demand Nos. 5 and 6 are along the same line: Social equality for Negro youths in military training and for Negro soldiers and sailors. Certainly, there should be no discrimination against Negroes; but segregation or social equality can never be surrended.

Demand 7 and 8 call for the "abolition of peonage system in the South, by whatever name or forms it exists," and "the establishment of the same wage scale for blacks as for whites." The white people of the South would be the greatest benefactors if these two demands were realized. Cheap labor has pauperized the South.

Demands 9 and 10 call for "better housing conditions for colored employees' and "sanitary conditions of the sections of the towns and cities.' These two demands are just and are fast being realized.

Demands 11, 12 and 13 call for equal justice in the courts of the land, for the abolition of lynching and the recognition of the rights of Negroes to sit on juries. It is generally believed that Negroes do not have proper consideration in the courts. If that is true it renders a mockery of justice. Certainly, a Negro should have the same consideration at the bar of justice as a white man. Lynching is a hang-over from barbarism and is a disgrace to a civilized—not to mention, Christian—nation. Thank God, it is rapidly vanishing.

The final, or 14th "demand," calls for "equal opportunity to labor in the line of his talents as the whites," etc. This is a just and reasonable demand. We were not conscious that there were any barriers here."

Colored Group Here Opposes Fifth Columnists

Colored people have organized a group known as the Colored Committee Opposing Communism and Other Fifth Column Activities.

The group was organized by Rev. L. V. Bo... pastor of the Mount Corinth Baptist church, who is serving as chairman. The group has as its main purpose the prevention of alien groups from stirring up labor trouble and class war.

Membership is open to all persons in accord with the aims of the organization.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

MAR 14 1941

"Excuse us Judge, but we just couldn't help it!"

MAR 14 1941

Rev. John B. Thompson, chairman of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and a member of the executive committee of the Oklahoma Civil Rights Federation was asked during the investigation as to whether or not the Federation was not practicing social equality by including Dunjee as a member of the executive committee.

Five whites, three of them students from the University of Oklahoma, were technically placed under arrest and later forced to appear before Oklahoma's Little Dies Committee recently, when they applauded a sharp retort of Editor Roscoe Dunjee, of the Black Dispatch, who when queried by chairman Joe B. Thompson, of the inquisitorial body as to his knowledge of the Bill of Rights, advised the chairman, I may not be able to recite all of the Bill of Rights, but being a Negro I know I'm not getting the benefit of them."

In the picture can be seen the arrested students being sworn in the Senate Lounge, at the state capitol. Editor Roscoe Dunjee is seen reclining in the chair looking at the excited whites.

Editor Dunjee, a member of the executive committee of the Oklahoma Federation for Constitutional Rights was being examined along with other members of the Federation who were under charge of having radical tendancies. The Ku Klux Klan scattered leaflets in the capitol building during the hearing endorsing the investigation and denouncing the civil rights group.

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Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
May 11, 1941

Drive By Foreign Agents To Delay Aid To Britain Is Foreseen By Officials

By FRANK I. WELLER

WASHINGTON —(The Special News Service) — A number of highly placed public observers say the United States is at the edge of a last ditch assault by Axis secret agents, Moscow Communists and fellow travelers.

They conclude that President Roosevelt's lightning-like start on the new Lease-Lend program of aid to beleagured "democracies" makes foreign intervention in United States policy a now-or-never problem. The International Communist, they add, sees a wall of public awareness suddenly confronting him, and the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo principals find Anti-Axis sentiment increasing in direct ratio to the growth of American national defense.

Some of them say they possess confidential information that a campaign of terrorism, sabotage and espionage will be attempted wherever undercover operatives with direct foreign relations can force a breach in social, economic and political armor. They understand that these agents will attempt to use certain elements in the German-American Bunds, the Communist Party of the United States and other legal organizations leaning toward foreign dictatorships.

The Bunds now require American citizenship of their members but they, in some instances, affiliate by devious means with Adolf Hitler's National Socialist Party. The Communist Party denies that it advocates overthrowing the United States government by force of arms, a tenet of international Communism, but to date it has not severed its connections with Moscow.

Chairman Dies (D., Tex.) of the House Committee investigating Un-American activities, announced on March 18 that he would ask that a grand jury be convened here within the next two months to prosecute the German-American Bund, the Communist Party and others for failure to register as agents of foreign principals.

"I am convinced," he said, "that we never can deal with Fifth Column activities in America until these organizations are outlawed for failure to comply with existing statutes. Many members of these organizations work in national defense industries."

Commentators differ, according to their respective experiences, on the probable extent or success of forecasted Fifth Column activities, but those in public and private life interviewed here agree that this country today is less vulnerable to subversive influences than at any time in recent months and say all alien "isms" are losing ground with their followers.

Most are inclined to agree with Dies, however, that there still were at least 1,000,000 persons actively working for foreign interests and that upward of 6,000,000 "needed watching."

The State Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are professionally silent on American counter-espionage and decline to discuss operations of the Bunds, the Communists and their possible ties with the Soviet Government or the Axis. Both, however, are relentlessly on the trail of agitators and watching for Nazi-Communist collaboration here as a result of Berlin-Moscow maneuvers abroad.

Some government officials privately criticise the administration for not making public its information regarding Fifth Column operators, insisting that the State Department is well aware of Axis diplomats spying on American defense preparations and that to a large extent army and navy secrets are common property of Berlin, Rome and Tokyo.

Others say the administration has full faith in counter-espionage and hesitates to acquaint the public with situations which an aroused opinion might complicate while diplomatic relations teeter in the balance.

These delicate scales did a dervish dance on February 21 when the Post Office Department confiscated 17,000 pieces of foreign propaganda mail weighing 15 tons. Officials said it came chiefly from Germany and Russia via Pacific ports. The Soviet Embassy immediately protested the seizure, and the department offered to give it all up if the addressees would appear in persons to claim the mail and register the foreign sources supplying it.

The seizure was made under a recent law declaring "unmailable" material sent to this country by agents of foreign principals not registered with the State Department. The law gave the State Department, the FBI and the Post Office Department a trap for foreign propagandists without violating the American bill of rights.

Government officials say Fifth Columnists in this country are better supplied with funds than they were in any area overrun by Hitler and Stalin in Europe. Communists alone, they say, collect $10,000,000 annually from American sympathizers, have transferred from Moscow to Nazi agents here considerable sums to liquidate obligations to Berlin and that Nazi money is shuttled about the Western Hemisphere entirely free of any United States restraint.

Dies says his committee will use its $150,000 of new appropriations to ride herd on Communist, Nazi, Fascist and Japanese maneuvers, particularly in respect to any secret commitments among them to collaborate against American national policy or to foment industrial disorder.

George Q. Lynch, president of the Pattern Makers League of North America and long a student of foreign-inspired labor disturbances, says the first evidence of renewed attacks likely will appear in the 20 states now experiencing strikes.

The situation there, as in any widespread labor upheaval, is made to order for skilled promoters of civil, social and economic rebellion against the orderly processes of capital and labor, he says. Other observers add that saboteurs, heretofore kept under wraps by industrial peace, hardly will overlook the slightest opportunity to spring an eleventh-hour effort to stall defense machinery.

Authorities say there is no outward manifestation of Communist collaboration with Axis powers to intimidate Americans with threats of armed force. They doubt even the existence of secret understandings, insisting the two ideologies are fundamentally opposed and can have little in common here except that each has the purpose of creating confusion, dissatisfaction, unrest and distrust of democratic processes.

The Communist Party in this country never has broken with Moscow but many of its leaders, testifying before the Dies Committee categorically denied subversive actions against the United States government. Dies says three - fourths of the charges brought against individuals by thousands of witnesses whose testimony cost the committee $235,000 over a three-year period were unsubstantiated.

The Dies Committee said in a formal report that the Nazi-Soviet pact in Europe showed a "similarity" between the two dictatorships but emphasized that the Communistist Party in America functions chiefly as a "border patrol" for Moscow.

There have been unofficial reports that the Stalin government, using its favorable trade relations with the United States, frequently has diverted its purchases here to the Reich's war machine but they have not indicated to what extent, if any, the Communist Party aided such deals.

Dies' report listed the following as Communist "front" organizations: American League for Peace and Democracy, International Workers' Order, American Student Union, Friends of the Soviet Union, National Negro Congress, Southern Negro Youth Congress, League of American Writers, Workers' Alliance, and Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

It said Communist leadership was entrenched in the following unions: National Maritime Union; United Cannery, Packing and Allied Workers; Federation of Architects, Chemists and Technicians, Fur Workers International Union, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, American Communications Association, United Electrical Radio and Mechanical Workers of America, United Furniture Workers of America.

His principal accomplishment, Dies says, was to destroy the usefulness of persons and organizations exposed as Communist and Nazi agents. The Communist Party has been dropped from election ballots in twelve states.

Fritz Kuhn, former head of the German-American Bund, is serving a prison term of from two and one-half to five years and a number of Bunds of various designations have been disbanded. Dies said he found that while they required American citizenship of their members they, in some cases, affiliated with the National Socialist Party.

The first important disintegration of Communist and Axis organizations here began with unfavorable reaction to the signing of the first Berlin-Moscow accord. Dies says of the Communists that the potential danger from them now lies more in what Moscow might attempt in event the United States got into war than in their day-to-day activities.

Some believe the FBI now is amply equipped to cope with any Fifth Column developments. There are unofficial estimates that it has 1600 operatives, 100 more than the peak secret service force of the Treasury Department during the first World War, and soon may add another 1200.

Identity of these men is virtually unknown, and likewise the identity of hundreds of secretly selected men and women who act as watchers in key positions. These are not directly affiliated with FBI and receive no pay. They make regular reports on suspected persons and whenever their quarry engages in espionage or sabotage a low-voiced stranger suddenly appears at his elbow, shows FBI identification, and takes his prisoner out of circulation.

One key defense industry alone (name withheld) has 138 such watchers. FBI also maintains a current file on all suspected Fifth Columnists, has a secret operative in every dangerous pro-foreign group, and informed sources feel confident it could reach out at any time and nip the most closely guarded un-American plot.

These sources say the "G-Man" is as efficient in his way as the German Gestapo or the Russian OGPU agent in his. The FBI, however, operates only against the enemies of the country and not against enemies of a political regime or administration.

Army and Navy authorities discount Fifth Column dangers within the armed forces although there have been persistent reports that enlisted International Communists seek to undermine morale and that Axis agents try to ferret out military secrets.

There were only two attempts of this kind made during the last war, and in those guilt was not conclusive although the accused were imprisoned for a time. There is little opportunity for espionage, it is almost certain to be thwarted and, Army officers say, American soldiers and sailors have a more quickly effective method than court martial for dealing with these incidents.

The offender, they say, sometimes can't show for reveille for a couple of weeks.

Rome Ga News-Tribune
May 26, 1941

Under Sound Leadership

Negro leaders in the South, especially in the religious and educational fields, are doing a work of great value in arraying their forces against the Communistic elements that are trying to cause friction between the races and further demoralization on American production lines.

These teachers of Communism, and un-Americanism of every type, seem to think that the negro is easily led astray and that the South offers an inviting field for winning converts to alien ideas, but in this they are mistaken. They forget that the negro is distinctly American. The ancestors of practically all the negroes in the South were brought here generations ago and the negroes of the present know nothing but America and no ideals but American ideals. Thus, under the leadership of their preachers and teachers, they may be relied upon to turn a cold shoulder to the sinister elements that would lead them into a position of opposition to that which is best for their own country.

Were all other portions of the country as solidly American as is the South there would be little cause for apprehension touching the activities of fifth columnists and other unwelcome elements.

441-1941
afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

White Railway Clerk Who Urged Equality Called Red

WASHINGTON

A white railway postal clerk who sought expression of his liberal racial views through the columns of The Railway Postoffice, organ of the Railway Mail Association, last week was labeled "red" by the paper's editor.

The would-be contributor, Joseph Mazer, white, whose article was held up for executive committee censorship, cited the European conflict as evidence of the "folly and danger of racial discrimination," and urged admittance of colored clerks to membership in the association.

MAY 31 1941

The article, and Editor Henry W. Strickland's letter of rejection, follow:

REMOVE THAT INJUSTICE!

Current world-wide conditions, although frightful in many ways, are rendering a great service—an increased feeling of tolerance.

Our association has accomplished much in striving for greater benefits for its more than 23,000 members. We have sought and acquired many liberal and progressive privileges.

Our very "heart," however — the Constitution—belies this record. Allow me to quote Article 3—Membership:

Racial Ban Official

"Any regular male railway postal clerk or male substitute railway postal clerk of the U. S. Railway Mail Service, who is of the Caucasian race, or a native American Indian, shall be eligible to membership in the Railway Mail Association."

It is quite significant then that non-Caucasian races are barred from this, our "fraternal" beneficiary association.

Evidence of Folly

The present conflict among European nations bears out the folly and danger of racial discrimination, and what such a policy encourages.

MAY 31 1941

Shall we too pursue a course of bigotry, selfishness and reaction? Shall we adopt an attitude of "let well enough alone," and subjugate a smaller (in number) but guiltless group in the Railway Mail Service to exclusion from our ranks?

Opinion Invited

Until this evil is corrected in our association, we cannot advance with heads erect and consciences clear.

It will indeed be enlightening for any of our members to express themselves on this sensitive, but important, subject. So, with speed and foresight, let us unite in removing this blemish.

JOSEPH MAZER.

Dear Mr. Mazer:

This will acknowledge yours of May 21, enclosing your article entitled "Remove That Injustice," which you request to have published in the June issue of the Railway Postoffice.

Called Communistic

As your article deals with the proposal to make colored eligible to membership in the association, in accordance with the principles and philosophy of Communism, and as the national executive committee of the Railway Mail Association has repeatedly voted not to permit publication of such articles in The Railway Postoffice, it will be necessary to submit your article to the executive committee of the R. M. A. for a vote as to whether it may be published.

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After the executive committee has voted by mail upon the question, you will be advised of the result of the committee's vote.

Seeks to Excuse Ban

In connection with your proposal to make colored eligible for membership in the Railway Mail Association, let me point out that for many years after the R.M.A. was founded, it admitted colored to membership; and when the constitution was finally amended in this respect it was not done because of the mere fact that they were colored.

The R. M. A. is not a labor organization in the usual sense in which the term is employed, but is incorporated as a fraternal beneficiary insurance society under the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

Benefits "Excessive"

After many years of experience with our beneficiary department, it was found that the colored as a group in our association, were receiving considerably more insurance benefits than they were paying into the treasury of the association in the form of dues.

MAY 31 1941

Whether this was through deliberate action on their part or because of inherent physical weaknesses of the race, was not determined at the time.

But since it was a fact that the colored men, as a group, were receiving an excessive amount of benefits in relation to dues which they paid to the association, it was deemed necessary from a insurance standpoint to bar them from membership in the association.

THE EDITOR.

Protect Negroes Against Isms

THERE is a place, at this time, for an organization among the negroes of Houston, and of Texas, such as that which has been formed by Rev. L. V. Bolton, negro Baptist pastor, and which has begun work under the name of the Colored Committee Opposing Communism and Other Fifth Column Activities.

In Houston, and indeed throughout the South, the loyalty to American ideals on the part of the great majority of the colored people is not now and never has been in question. In peace and in war they have done their part as citizens as best they could.

Subversive elements are busy now, however, not only among white people, but among negroes. In some other sections of the country many of the colored people have been lured into the camps of alien agitators, and inculcated with isms foreign to American principles.

It is to counteract any such activities on the part of agitators in this city and section that the committee referred to above has been organized. Prompt work in refuting the claims of any group that seeks to stir up racial prejudice, labor trouble or to induce negroes to interfere with the National program will be welcomed by law enforcing authorities and by the people.

Post
Houston Texas
MAY 31 1941